

ALL SAINTS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH
608 JEFFERSON STREET
TUPELO, MISSISSIPPI 38804
MINUTES OF MAY 16, 2011 VESTRY MEETING

PRESENT:

The Rev. Paul Stephens	Lynn Bryan	Joellen Murphree
Wayne Averett, Sr. Warden	Kaye Cannon	Sandra Perkins
Cathy Fitzpatrick, Jr. Warden	Julian Carroll	Fredda Robinson
	Susan Hyatt	Wayne Slocum
Mary Lou Parks, Ass't. Treasurer	Stephen King	Ann Springfield
Tommie Moore, Clerk	Kevan Kirkpatrick	Josh Westmoreland

ABSENT: Albert White

The Rev. Paul Stephens opened the Vestry meeting with a prayer at 6:33 p.m.

CHECK-IN

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:

Kid's Day Out allowance in flexibility of policy re: CPR certification
Approve donation of printer, scanner and monitor

REVIEW OF MINUTES:

The March 21, 2011 Vestry minutes were reviewed.

MOTION: (King/Bryan)

Approve March 21, 2011 Vestry minutes as submitted.

APPROVED.

The April 13, 2011 minutes of the Memorandum of Action of Vestry by Written Consent Without a Meeting were reviewed.

MOTION: (Murphree/Springfield)

Approve minutes as submitted.

APPROVED.

The April 27, 2011 minutes of the Memorandum of Action of Executive Committee by Written Consent Without a Meeting were reviewed.

MOTION: (Bryan/Springfield)

Approve minutes as submitted.

APPROVED.

The April 28, 2011 minutes of the Memorandum of Action of Vestry by Written Consent Without a Meeting were reviewed.

MOTION: (Springfield/Robinson)

Approve minutes as submitted.

APPROVED.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Assistant Treasurer, Mary Lou Parks advised the Vestry that we have collected 87% of our year-to-date revenue budget. Our year-to-date expenses are under budget \$7,560.00. Mary Lou advised that no Pre-Paid Pledges were used in March or April, leaving an available balance of \$31,205.00. She continued her report noting that the outstanding principal loan balance as of April 30 is \$2,483,209.00. Campaign pledges in the amount of \$13,725 were received in March and \$7,500 were received in April.

Mary Lou reviewed with the Vestry the responsibilities and duties of the Vestry Person of the Day, especially noting that there should always be two Vestry members present when counting the offering and working up the deposit on Sundays.

MOTION: (Fitzpatrick/King)

Approve Treasurer's report as submitted.

APPROVED.

CHRISTIAN GROWTH COMMISSION: No report

CHRISTIAN SERVICE COMMISSION: No report

CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP COMMISSION: No report

JR. WARDEN REPORT:

Jr. Warden, Cathy Fitzpatrick, offered thanks to the Landscape Committee for their work and efforts in sprucing up the Jefferson Street façade on Sunday, May 1. She also advised the Vestry that there are three open dates on the Altar Flower chart and asked that they consider giving the flowers for those particular Sundays.

SR. WARDEN REPORT:

Sr. Warden, Wayne Averett, reported that the blessing and dedication of the Chapel Columbarium is scheduled for Wednesday, May 18 at 12:05 p.m. at the Holy Eucharist with Anointing service. He stated that one niche has been reserved for use with interest expressed by others.

RECTOR REPORT:

Paul reported that the organ renovation is ahead of schedule. He stated that the brick work on the reredos has been completed and Greg Koziel will begin working in the organ chamber soon.

Paul distributed a handout showing our Holy Week attendance figures from 2007 – 2011. He noted that the total Holy Week attendance for 2011 was 917 – 997 in 2010.

Paul advised that Laura Finger was confirmed on Sunday, May 15 by Bishop Gray at a service at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Columbus. Laura will be a member of All Saints', Tupelo.

Paul reported that Joellen Murphree attended the first Bishop's Annual Stewardship Summit held at St. Columb's Church in Ridgeland. The Vestry is looking forward to Joellen sharing information that she received at the summit.

Paul reported that tornado relief efforts are ongoing in our surrounding communities that were devastated in late April. He acknowledged that St. Peter's by the Sea in Gulfport has loaned a disaster relief trailer filled with construction equipment to All Saints' to be used in the relief efforts. In addition, Paul stated that approximately \$10,000 in cash and \$2,500 in gift cards have been contributed to the relief effort. He reported that he and several parishioners are in conversation regarding partnering with Habitat for Humanity to build a house for the Wade Morris family, who lost everything in the tornado that struck Smithville. Wade is the nephew of an Episcopal priest. He is also working with Episcopal Relief and Development Fund trying to secure funding to purchase a building in Smithville to house a child care center. The Gilmore Foundation of Amory will fund all of the materials, equipment and furnishings for the center.

Paul gave an overview of the calendar noting that he had conducted a presentation on Pastoral Care for the Emotionally Ill at North Mississippi Medical Center. He also noted the following events taking place over the next month:

Lawndale Presbyterian Church Trinity Conference May 20 & 21

Day of Repentance and Reconciliation May 20 at St. Andrew's Cathedral in Jackson

Kid's Day Out begins Thursday, June 2

Paul advised that our part-time sexton, Walt Duncan will be moving to the Gulf Coast to pursue a job opportunity in that area. He offered his thanks to Walt for the great job he has done in the position. Paul reported that he is reviewing and evaluating the hours offered and the duties of the position, to see if any changes are needed.

BUSINESS

Approve donations of items to church—2 paintings, flat screen TV, printer, scanner and monitor

Paul reminded the Vestry that, as has become our practice, they would need to approve the following donations to the church: painting by Jean Cooper, painting by Nathan Duncan, 52" flat screen TV donated by Ken and Joy Johnson and a scanner, printer and monitor donated by Bud and Lynn Nelson.

MOTION: (Bryan/Springfield)

Approve donations of painting by Jean Cooper, painting by Nathan Duncan, 52" flat screen TV donated by Ken and Joy Johnson and a scanner, printer and monitor donated by Bud and Lynn Nelson.

APPROVED.

Approve Finance committee recommendations re: consolidation of certain Money Market accounts

Assistant Treasurer, Mary Lou Parks, presented the Finance Committee recommendations of the consolidation of certain Money Market accounts:

- (a) Combine Account 8010 "Sacristy Fund" and Account 8033 "Chapel Altar Guild Fund", with Account 8010 renamed "Altar Guild";
- (b) Combine Account 8013 "Altar Flowers Fund" and Account 8035 "Altar Guild Greenery Sale", with Account 8013 renamed "Flower Guild";
- (c) Combine Account 8006 "Garden Guild Fund" and Account 8012 "Chapel Garden Fund", with Account 8006 renamed "Landscape Fund".

MOTION: (King/Robinson)

Approve the consolidation of the following Money Market accounts:

- (a) Combine Account 8010 "Sacristy Fund" and Account 8033 "Chapel Altar Guild Fund", with Account 8010 renamed "Altar Guild";
- (b) Combine Account 8013 "Altar Flowers Fund" and Account 8035 "Altar Guild Greenery Sale", with Account 8013 renamed "Flower Guild";
- (c) Combine Account 8006 "Garden Guild Fund" and Account 8012 "Chapel Garden Fund", with Account 8006 renamed "Landscape Fund".

APPROVED.

Approve payment of Cooperative College of Congregational Development tuition

Paul reported that the second year tuition for the Cooperative College of Congregational Development is due and the Finance Committee recommended using the funds left over in the "140th Anniversary Celebration" account to pay tuition (\$530.00 per person).

MOTION: (Kirkpatrick/Perkins)

Approve funding the Cooperative College of Congregational Development tuition (\$530.00 per person) from the "140th Anniversary Celebration" account 8054, not to exceed \$2,159.74.

APPROVED.

Discuss moving meeting time of Vestry to 6:00 p.m.

Senior Warden, Wayne Averett, advised the Vestry that at the Executive Committee meeting it was suggested that the Vestry meetings begin at 6:00 p.m. instead of 6:30 p.m. After a brief discussion, the following motion was made:

MOTION: (King/Springfield)

Begin future Vestry meetings at 6:00 p.m.

APPROVED.

Kid's Day Out allowance in flexibility of policy re: CPR certification

Paul reported that plans for our summer Kid's Day Out program are coming together. Volunteers have been recruited to staff the program during June and July. He noted that a Safeguarding God's training has been scheduled for May 25. Paul reported however, that Mary Howard King is experiencing some difficulty securing a professional to conduct the CPR/AED certification training. He asked the Vestry to consider allowing some flexibility in the Kid's Day Out policy regarding the CPR certification. Paul noted that Mary Howard King, who will be working each session, has been certified in CPR/AED and that she hopes to have the training scheduled before the session on June 9.

MOTION: (Bryan/Robinson)

Allow the CPR/AED certification training to be rescheduled prior to the session on June 9, provided Mary Howard King, who has been certified in CPR/AED, will be on site during the first session (June 2).

APPROVED.

Discussion of delegation of specific decision making authority to Executive committee

It is the expressed desire of the All Saints' Vestry to focus and allocate parish resources into key areas so as to broaden and enhance the reach of the parish and its ministries. To be successful in this endeavor, the Vestry has determined that the existing ways of "doing business" are no longer effective or efficient. New practices should be implemented to better utilize Vestry resources for the assessment of existing programs and the visioning, planning and implementation of new programs and efforts.

The Vestry has determined that one of the first changes to be implemented is the delegation to the Executive Committee of certain decision-making authority. This will be accomplished in the following manner:

- The Vestry will adopt a resolution pursuant to which certain decision-making authority will be delegated to the Executive Committee by the Vestry.
- The Executive Committee will continue to be composed of the Rector, the Wardens, the Vestry Conveners and the Program Administrator. The Rector shall preside at all meetings of the Executive Committee. In the Rector's absence, the Senior Warden shall preside. The Executive Committee will meet at least one time per month for the purpose of setting the vestry agenda and to otherwise transact the Parish's business. Additional meetings of the Executive Committee may be called by the Rector with prior notice thereof given to all members of the Executive Committee. Furthermore, the Executive Committee can transact business via email and/or telephone.
- A written agenda of business to be considered shall be provided to members of the Executive Committee at least 24 hours before the scheduled time of the meeting. The agenda may be modified at said meeting upon a majority vote of members present.
- The Program Administrator shall keep or cause to be kept true minutes of the Executive Committee meetings (whether held in person or by phone) and of actions taken and approved by email. Said minutes shall be forwarded to the Vestry together with the written agenda for the Vestry meeting.

It was noted that a formal, fair and impartial process for selecting Vestry conveners should be considered, inasmuch as, the Executive Committee will be afforded additional authority under the new guidelines. After discussing the concept at length, the following motion was made:

MOTION: (Westmoreland/Bryan) Adopt the following resolution for a period of six months and re-evaluate the process in October, 2011.

WHEREAS, the Vestry of All Saints' Episcopal Church, Tupelo, desires to broaden the Parish's reach so as to meet both existing needs and future challenges; to serve existing and new constituencies; and to create and embrace new opportunities for ministry; and

WHEREAS, the Vestry has determined that in order to so broaden the parish's reach it must adopt new practices and policies so that the Parish's existing programs may be efficiently assessed, resources better allocated, and the planning and implementation of new programs occur; and

WHEREAS, the Vestry expressly finds that delegation of certain decision-making authority to the Executive Committee by the Vestry, in accordance with Article IV Section 4 of the By-laws of the Parish, will aid in the transaction of the Parish's business, in the exercise of its canonical duties and obligations and otherwise allow the Vestry to more efficiently allocate limited resources.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY

RESOLVED, that except as specifically limited by the Vestry, the Parish's By-Laws, applicable Canon or this Resolution, the Executive Committee may exercise any and all power and authority for and on behalf of the Vestry.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that notwithstanding the general delegation of authority to the Executive Committee by the Vestry as herein contained, the Executive Committee shall not have the following power or authority, all of which is specifically reserved to the full Vestry:

- Adopting, amending or repealing the By-Laws of the Parish;
- Approving or amending the Annual Operating Budget of the Parish;
- Selling, leasing, exchanging, mortgaging, pledging or disposing of property or assets of the Parish;
- Approving the Treasurer (and assistants if any), Clerk of the Vestry, Chancellor and Chairs of Committees of the Parish;
- Filling vacancies in the offices of Warden or Vestry;
- Selecting and confirming the Chair and members of a Rector Search Committee;
- Selecting a candidate for Rector of the Parish;
- Selecting and appointing delegates to Annual Council; and
- Approving (or rejecting) gifts or bequests to the Parish.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that through minutes, the Executive Committee shall report the Committee's activities and actions to the Vestry at the regular Vestry meeting next following each Executive Committee meeting.

APPROVED.

Theological Reflection: Homeless persons continued use of All Saints' facilities? (Facilitated by Father Paul)

Paul advised the Vestry that at a recent Wednesday night gathering, he began a conversation with the Parish regarding the homeless population in Tupelo and All Saints' response to that issue. Continuing the conversation with the Vestry, Paul stated that he would like for the Vestry to do a theological reflection about this issue, reflecting on what scripture calls us to do, what our tradition and culture say, what kind of action would be possible, and ending with the Vestry expressing their individual position on the matter. Paul advised the Vestry that as outlined in Canon Law, the Rector of a parish has the final decision making authority of how the church buildings will ultimately be used, but that he was soliciting the Vestry's input and wisdom regarding the matter. Following his opening statements, a lengthy discussion followed on the issue of homeless persons in Tupelo and All Saints' response to that issue. After the discussion concluded, Paul thanked the Vestry for their candid, honest comments.

CHECK-OUT

With no further business the Vestry meeting was adjourned and the Rev. Paul Stephens closed with a prayer at 9:07 p.m.

Submitted by Tommie Moore, Clerk of the Vestry

ATTACHMENTS TO MINUTES OF THE MAY MEETING:

General Fund and Capital Campaign Financial Reports 04/30/11

Photo of painting by Jean Cooper

Photo of painting by Nathan Duncan

Proposal of delegation of specific decision making authority to Executive Committee